

## **Dunsford Climate Initiative minutes of meeting**

Meeting held at Village Hall Dressing Rooms 7.15pm 18<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Present – Cllr Paul French, Cllr Alison Arnold, Pip Hayes, Ruth Stevens and Julia Kirkland.

1. Apologies – Cllr Rebecca Squire, Julia Balfour and Danny McGahey.
2. Minutes of the last DCI meeting – agreed and signed.
3. Review of actions see below -
4. B3212 path/other path/stepping stones - Cllr French had reported some discussion has begun between DNPA and DCC but no knew info. We recognised that there is one “stepping stone” now downriver by about a meter.

ACTION: Cllr French to follow up with DPNA.

Within this subject the topic of 20-mph speed limit for roads where traffic and people mix was discussed. An initiative the Council is supporting from a proposal made by DCC Cllr Hodgson. A Big Banner has been put up by the garage. Guy Arnold will mount this on a board, once cost is approved by PC.

ACTION: Cllr Alison Arnold to seek cost of board at Dec PC

5. Teign River Initiative – Cllr Arnold had spoken with a resident who has knowledge of the old mines/tips. The Coal Board are still owners of the land to east of the Teign Valley road where the tips are. We have some limited info on the water contaminants but not the LD50 values that would cause damage to fish or invertebrates. There is a FORT (Friends Of River Teign) meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> Nov. at Fingle Julia Kirland may be able to attend.

ACTION: (a) Julia Kirland. (b) Cllr Paul French to request copies of presentations from ACT 4F co-ordinator - Done

6. Dark Skies – Street Lighting continues to be a problem. The prison is still seen as a major obstacle to Dartmoor getting Dark Sky status. We discussed and agreed it would be good to ask Cllr Peter Harper, if he would join this group. He has historic ties with DNPA, is a local farmer with interests in this area. Ruth reported she is in discussion with a French Dark Sky campaigner who is developing an app, which he will share with us for “beta” testing.

ACTION: (a) Cllr Alison Arnold to raise with Clerk of DPC the street light issue and ask her to write again to DCC. (b) Cllr Paul French to ask Peter Harper to join DCI and see if he is willing to pursue the topic with DNPA. (c) Ruth Stenens continue dialog with French contact

7. Wildlife Warden activities – Julia Kirland reported on various recent activities. She has also prepared and put wild flower seeds in the shop, plus keeping some back for DCI use. The recent “red” Reedy Brook had been caused by earthworks up stream. Cllr Paul French had written to Teign Housing regarding putting some wild flowers on the green in The Orchard. There had been no reply. He has also got some organic weedkiller to use to both clear the area on the The Orchard, for planting, and for future use on the Play Park matting.

ACTION: (a) The Cllrs present will work with the clerk to get Dunsford PC Agrochemical free and registered. (b) Cllr Paul French with Cllr Peter Harper ref joining DCI

8. Village Green Trees. We discussed the opposition that occurred when it was muted that the long term aim was to remove the current Leylandi. Julia Balfour was unfortunately absent, but we decided that perhaps the best way forward, inially, was to increase the indigenous tree/bush cover around the external fence.

ACTION: Julia Kirland will explore possible sources of trees etc. These may need to be kept in pots at home to bring them on sufficiently to withstand future Village Green activities.

9. Cllr Arnold has already prepared and sent off the December contribution to Unity and will prepare one for January.

ACTION: Cllr Alison Arnold

10. Matters brought forward at last meeting but not discussed (next agenda please). Beating the Bounds next year and Community composting. Julia Balfour had also reported by email the issue of dog poos particularly on the path from Butts Pond to the school, who had created a poster, which we encourage them to put up.

ACTION: (a) agenda Cllr Paul French (b) Dog notice, Julia Balfour

11. Next meeting TBC

ACTION Cllr Rebecca Squire to circulate a diary doodle.

Signed.

Date.

Paul French Lead Councillor DCI